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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 01396 281139Z

46
ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 SCI-06 INT-08 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11

NSC-07 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 AF-10 XMB-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 IO-14

COME-00 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /191 W
---------- 068767
R 281125Z JUN 74
FM USINT ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0706

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1396

1. DURING FAREWELL CALL ON ACTING HEAD OF FOREIGN MINISTRY BENHABYLES JUNE 28 HE SAID HE WISHED US GOVERNMENT TO BE AWARE THAT ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT WAS NOW INTERESTED IN MOVING AHEAD WITH PLANS TO DEVELOP AGRICULTURAL AREAS IN SAHARA DESERT. THEY HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY WORK OF MORRISON-KNUDSEN ON ABADLA IRRIGATION PROJECT AND HAD ASKED M-K TO STUDY POSSIBILITY OF DEVELOPING OTHER IRRIGATED AREAS. THIS WOULD INVOLVE EXPLORATION FOR UNDERGROUND WATER AS WELL AS PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING PROJECTS. PRESIDENT OF M-K WAS EXPECTED TO VISIT ALGERIA SHORTLY.

2. BENHABYLES INDICATED THAT INTEREST IN SAHARAN DEVELOPMENT WAS NOW CENTERED IN PRESIDENCY AND SPECIFICALLY WITH MINISTER OF INTERIOR MEDEGHRI. WHEN I MENTIONED THAT U.S. COMPANIES AND USINT HAD ON NUMBER OF OCCASIONS DISCUSSED SAHARAN DEVELOPMENT WITH MINISTER OF HYDRAULICS, ARBAOUI, BENHABYLES WAS SILENT. IT THUS APPEARS THAT THIS AREA HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM ARBAOUI'S RESPONSIBILITY.

3. BENHABYLES SAID HE ALSO WISHED TO ALERT US TO FACT THAT ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT, THROUGH CONTACT WITH WORLD
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METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION, WAS INTERESTED IN RESEARCH

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IN ARTIFICIAL MEANS TO CREATE RAIN, SUCH AS CLOUD SEEDING. HE UNDERSTOOD USG WAS INVOLVED IN PROJECT IN MALI.

4. WHEN I ASKED BENHABYLES WHETHER HE WAS REQUESTING ANYTHING FROM USG AT THIS TIME, HE REPLIED IN NEGATIVE BUT ADDED THAT AT SOME POINT QUESTION OF FINANCING IRRIGATION PROJECTS WOULD ARISE AND HE HOPED USG WOULD HAVE POSITIVE ATTITUDE, PRESUMABLY IN CONNECTION WITH EXIM LOANS FOR U.S. GOODS AND SERVICES.
EAGLETON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IRRIGATION, FOREIGN INVESTMENT, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, CLOUD SEEDING, BANK LOANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740171-1172
From: ALGIERS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Comment: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: EAGR, AG, US, MORRISON-KNUDSEN, XMB
To: STATE
Type: TE
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